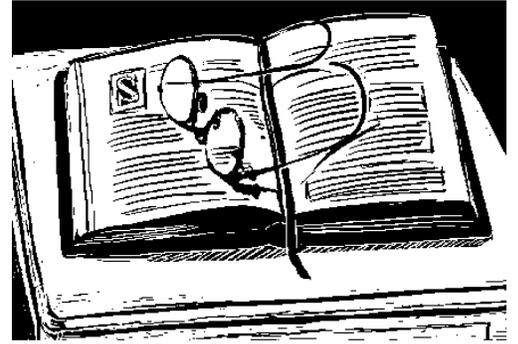


Paul's Letter to Titus

Titus 3



Titus 3

¹ Remind them to be subject to rulers, to authorities, to be obedient,

to be ready for every good deed,

² to malign no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing every consideration for all men.

THE DUTY OF THE CHRISTIAN CITIZEN...

- Did the Christians of Crete already know that they must be subject to their rulers and authorities?
- Why did they need to be reminded?
- More than be obedient citizens, what was Paul concerned that they also do?
 - Matt. 5:41 "Whoever forces you to go _____ mile, go with him _____."
 - Who said this?
 - Is there any application of this in our day?
- What does malign mean?
 - Who are we not to malign?
 - Especially in this context, who does it seem we are not to malign?
 - Why would they need to be reminded to be peaceable?
 - ...Gentle?
 - ...Showing every consideration for all men?

³ For we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another. ⁴ But when the kindness of God our Savior and His love for mankind appeared,

⁵ He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy,

by the washing of regeneration

and renewing by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that being justified by

REMEMBER, WE USED TO BE ONE OF THEM...

- What does the word “for” point us to consider?
- Does Paul seem to have any compassion for these foolish folks of v. 3?
 - disobedient
 - deceived
 - enslaved...
 - spending life in malice, envy, and hate
- But what has happened to us?
 - Who or what is the “kindness of God” and “His love for mankind” that ***appeared?***
 - Upon what basis were we NOT saved?
 - Upon what basis were we INDEED saved?
 - What is this “washing of regeneration”?
 - What is the “washing” referring to?
 - What is “regeneration”?
 - “Jesus answered, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is _____ of _____ and the _____ he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.’” (John 3:5)
 - Is this washing of regeneration a work or grace?
 - What is this “renewal of the Holy Spirit”?

His grace we would be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

⁸ This is a trustworthy statement; and concerning these things I want you to speak confidently, so that those who have believed God will be careful to engage in good deeds. These things are good and profitable for men.

⁹ But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and strife and disputes about the Law, for they are unprofitable and worthless.

- In what way does the Holy Spirit renew us?
- Are there other ways (thinking of the Holy Spirit being poured out on us “richly”) that the Holy Spirit benefits the Christian?
- What is the outcome of being justified by His grace (see v. 7)?
- H_____
- According to the h_____ of e_____ l_____
- Describe this hope of eternal life?

BE CAREFUL TO ENGAGE IN GOOD DEEDS...

- What is the trustworthy statement referred to here?
- What is the outcome Paul hopes for?
- How are good deeds “good and profitable for men”?

THE FOLLY OF MEANINGLESS CONTROVERSIES...

- What’s the difference between a foolish controversy and a serious controversy?
- What seems to be the theme of the controversies Paul has in mind?
- Who would care about genealogies?
- Who would fight and dispute over matters of the Law?
- What value does Paul give such arguments?

¹⁰ Reject a factious man after a first and second warning, ¹¹ knowing that such a man is perverted and is sinning, being self-condemned.

¹² When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, make every effort to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. ¹³ Diligently help Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way so that nothing is lacking for them.

¹⁴ Our people must also learn to engage in good deeds to meet pressing needs, so that they will not be unfruitful.

¹⁵ All who are with me greet you. Greet those who love us in the faith.

Grace be with you all.

REJECT A FACTIOUS MAN...

- What does factious mean?
 - So, what is a factious man doing?
- What is Paul talking about, when he commands that such a person should be “rejected”?
- Why doesn’t Paul recommend Jesus’ “formula” for dealing with sinful situations?
- What does the word “perverted” mean?

PERSONAL REQUESTS...

- In looking at this section here, who are the probable letter carriers of this epistle to Titus?
- Which men may be coming to “relieve” Titus?
- Where is Nicopolis?

ONE LAST EXHORTATION ABOUT GOOD DEEDS...

- Our people must learn to...
 - ..._____ in good deeds
 - ...to meet _____
 - ...so that they will not be _____

CLOSING GOODBYES...

- Are greetings important in the church?